

Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-4, 6-7, and 12-14 are pending in this continuation application, with claims 1-4 and 6-7 being amended, claims 5 and 8-11 being cancelled, and new claims 12-14 being presented for the first time. The specification is amended to correct inconsistencies. The Abstract is amended to comply with the 150 word limitation. No new matter is added.

Rejections in the parent application under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are rejected under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chaudhry. Independent claims 1 and 6 are amended to recite that the surge protective element is ring-shaped, which is not disclosed in the reference. Claims 2 and 4, and 7, being dependent on and further limiting independent claims 1 and 6, respectively, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Claim 5 is cancelled. It is respectfully suggested that the rejection of claims 1-2, 4, and 6-7 is overcome. New claims depend from independent claims 1 or 6.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 3 is rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaudhry. Claim 3, being dependent on and further limiting independent claim 1, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An electrically conductive element for protecting electrical components positioned within a cable connector or cable terminator from high voltage surges includes a ring that is positioned in circumferentially surrounding relation to the input pin of the connector or terminator that carries the signal being transmitted by the coaxial cable. The ring includes at least one prong that extends radially inward therefrom which terminates in close but non-contacting relation to the input pin. When a high voltage surge of electricity is carried by the coaxial cable transmission line a spark is formed in the gap between the prong and the cable connector or terminator. As a consequence, the high voltage surge is transferred to the surge protection element which in turn conducts the electricity to the grounded body of the connector or terminator.